

What is claimed is:

1. A method for determining the angle position of a reciprocating internal combustion engine with an electronic operation control device, which receives signals from a crankshaft sensor, which is assigned to a toothed pickup wheel connected in a non-rotating manner to the crankshaft and which is configured for static detection of the teeth and/or gaps on the pickup wheel, comprising counting the teeth or gaps of the pickup wheel passing the crankshaft sensor with every rotational movement of the crankshaft via the electronic operation control device, starting from a synchronization angle position of the pickup wheel; and

storing a resulting number of teeth to determine the initial angle position of the internal combustion engine therefrom when the internal combustion engine starts up.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic operation control device is operated so that it counts the teeth or gaps passing the crankshaft sensor when the internal combustion engine is switched off.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein a component of the operation control device used to analyze the signals from the crankshaft sensor is kept in constant operation.

4. The method according to claim 2, wherein a component of the operation control device used to analyze the signals from the crankshaft sensor is switched off in a power latch and switch-off phases of the internal combustion engine together with a remainder of the electronic operation control device and activated again on based on an alarm signal, when the crankshaft sensor indicates rotational movement of the crankshaft.

5. A device for determining the angle position of a reciprocating internal combustion engine, comprising:

an electronic operation control device, which receives signals from a crankshaft sensor, which is assigned to a toothed pickup wheel connected in a non-rotating manner to the crankshaft and which is configured for static detection of the teeth and/or gaps on the pickup wheel, wherein

the electronic operation control device constantly counts the teeth or gaps of the pickup wheel passing the crankshaft sensor with every rotational movement of the crankshaft, starting from a synchronization angle position of the pickup wheel, and stores a resulting number of teeth to determine the initial angle position of the internal combustion engine therefrom when the internal combustion engine starts up.